

REMARKS

With this response, claims 45-47 and 52-68 are pending. Claim 45 and 52 have been amended. Claims 48-51 have been canceled. Support for the amendments to claim 45 can be found in canceled claim 49, in claim 52 as previously presented, in the specification at p. 21, lines 14-29, and in the specification at p. 60, lines 17-20.

Applicants and the undersigned counsel acknowledge and thank Examiner Kallis for the courtesy extended during the September 4, 2003, interview. During this interview, the claim amendments presented herein, as well as the arguments regarding enablement and written description presented in Amendment B dated February 6, 2003, were discussed.

Agreement was reached as to the patentability of the amended claims presented herein. Specifically, recitation of the hybridization conditions in (a)(ii), (b)(ii), and (c)(ii) and of the enzymes in (d) of claim 45 were considered by the Office to have overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph written description rejection cited in the final Office action and to have placed claim 45 and all claims dependent therefrom in a condition for allowance. Moreover, it is Applicants' understanding that the arguments recited in Amendment B dated February 6, 2003, regarding enablement are considered by the Examiner to have overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph enablement rejection cited in the final Office action.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, for lack of written description and under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement.

Applicants request an extension of time to and including September 11, 2003, for filing a response to the above-mentioned final Office action. A check in the amount of the applicable extension fee is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or overpayment in connection with this amendment to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,



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